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Brevities.

. . . On the 20th of March last, Denmark and Portugal signed an arbitration convention by the terms of which they agree to submit to the Hague Court "all differences of no matter what nature" which may arise between them, which it may not have been possible to settle by diplomatic means. The convention is drawn for a period of ten years.

. . . The *Ohio State Journal* says: "In whatever nation one goes he will find the voice of humanity preaching for the reduction of navies, and such expression will get into the deliberations of the Hague Conference before it adjourns."

. . . One hundred and fifty-six members of the Canadian Parliament have given their adhesion to the Interparliamentary Union and formed themselves into a group of that body. It is probable that the Interparliamentary Conference will be held in Ottawa in 1909.

. . . The chairman of the peace committee of the National Women's Relief Society, Mrs. Emily S. Richards of Salt Lake City, reports that on May 19 one hundred and sixty-six peace and arbitration demonstrations, at which six hundred and fifty-eight different speakers took part, were held under the auspices of her committee and a similar committee of the Young Ladies' National Mutual Improvement Association, of which Minnie J. Snow is chairman. Mrs. Richards reports that interest in the cause of peace has greatly increased in Utah. Many of the public schools observed Peace Day. On Sunday afternoon, May 19, a large and important meeting called by the Governor of Utah was held in the Tabernacle at Salt Lake City. At this meeting a committee of seven was appointed to consider the organization of a permanent peace association for the State.

. . . The following resolution was presented by Rev. Albert H. Plumb, D. D., of Roxbury, and adopted at the annual meeting of the General Association of Congregational Churches of Massachusetts, May 21 to 23, 1907:

"The General Association of Congregational Churches of Massachusetts, assembled in its one hundred and fifth annual meeting at Westfield, May 21 to 23, 1907, hereby expresses its profound gratitude to God for the recent remarkable growth, among all the leading nations of the world, of the desire to settle all national disputes by the force of reason through arbitration, rather than by force of arms; for the numerous and substantial victories of peace already thus secured within a few years past, and especially for the increasing predominance of the conviction that this world belongs to Christ, and that in all departments of life, among nations as well as individuals, true prosperity and real greatness come, not by pursuing a selfish policy, but through God's blessing on the practice of the Golden Rule. In view of the approaching Second International Conference at The Hague, this Association recommends that continued and fervent prayer be offered that God may so guide its deliberations and conclusions as greatly to hasten the coming of the time when the nations shall learn war no more."

. . . An international congress of students will be held at Bordeaux, France, from the first to the eighth of September next. The subject of international friendship and peace will figure as the chief feature of the program.

. . . The Fourth British National Peace Congress was held at Scarborough on June 27 and 28. The congress was presided over by Rt. Hon. John E. Ellis, M. P., who, with Mrs. Ellis, gave a reception to the delegates on the

opening evening at the Grand Hotel. The sittings of the congress were held in the Old Town Hall. We shall hope to be able to give details of the congress in our next issue.

. . . The Council of the Interparliamentary Union held a meeting at Brussels on May 21, which was presided over by Mr. Beernaert, Minister of State. Fifteen members were present. The German delegates brought an invitation from the German Interparliamentary Group to hold the next conference of the Union in Berlin in 1908. This invitation was enthusiastically accepted. It had the approval of Chancellor von Bülow, and the Imperial Government of Germany will give the delegates the same kind of reception that the Union has received in other countries.

. . . Cardinal Gibbons, in an interview at the recent Commencement at Holy Cross College, Worcester, declared that the cause of peace has in recent times made most decisive progress, and that its ultimate success is assured. "I hold," he said, "that Christ's mission of peace has not failed."

. . . A peace scrapbook, containing 32,977 newspaper clippings in connection with the New York National Peace Congress, is now being made up at the rooms of the American Society in New York. These clippings, the order for which was placed by Mr. Hayne Davis, Secretary of the American Branch of the Society for International Conciliation, reveal the immense interest felt in all parts of the United States in the cause of international peace. The scrapbook will be sent to the American delegation at The Hague, to be presented to the Conference, and will finally be deposited in the Carnegie Palace of Peace. The scrapbook will be the largest of its kind in the world, will weigh about two hundred and fifty pounds, and will contain nearly two miles of newspaper reading matter. So mightily doth the peace movement grow and increase.

. . . The New Orleans *Sunday States* of May 26 pays a fine tribute, in a two-column article, to Mr. W. O. Hart of the New Orleans Bar, for his many and varied services in behalf of the public good. It was on Mr. Hart's suggestion that the public schools of New Orleans observed the 18th of May as Peace Day. Mr. Hart has recently made himself a member of the American Peace Society, and proposes to carry on a vigorous campaign in his wide circle of influence for the great world-cause for which the Society is laboring.

. . . An important step has been taken toward the inauguration of peace work in China. At the great missionary conference held in Shanghai in May in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the introduction of missionary work into China, Rev. Timothy Richard, perhaps the ablest missionary in China and a strong friend of the peace cause, introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Conference recommends to the Christian Churches throughout China the observance of the Sunday before Christmas as Peace Sunday."

Joseph G. Alexander, former secretary of the International Law Association, who was a delegate to the conference from England, supported the resolution in a speech of some length, in which he unfolded to the conference the incompatibility of war with the spirit and

aims of Christianity. The resolution was adopted, and next December the peace movement will be fairly launched among the Chinese Christian communities.

. . . The Sagamore Sociological Conference, held for three days at the middle of June under the auspices of the Christian Endeavor Society, adopted the following message and cabled it to the American delegation at The Hague:

"The Sagamore Sociological Conference, remembering America's responsibility in calling the Hague Conference, earnestly hopes for strong American effort for limitation of armaments and for the broadest program."

Dr. Francis E. Clark, who proposed the message and supported it in a strong speech, has just returned from an extended trip in South America, where he reports the sentiment against the war system to be deep and widespread.

. . . Dr. Edward Everett Hale, who strongly upholds the proposal for limitation of armaments, as well as the other measures advocated by the Interparliamentary Union, has cabled to Mr. Choate at The Hague that the American people may be relied upon to support the most advanced action by the Conference. That cablegram uttered the truth for the great body of our citizens.

. . . We have previously mentioned that Bishop Doane of Albany authorized a prayer for use in the churches of his diocese for the successful issue of the Hague Conference. A similar prayer was also authorized by Bishop William A. Leonard of Ohio. In speaking of the matter Bishop Leonard said: "If arbitration between governments, as well as between warring factions in trade and labor, can eventually be brought about, we shall have cause to rejoice before God for one of the great accomplishments of his infinite desire."

. . . The International Medical Association, which was organized in Paris two years ago, is to have an American branch. A meeting for the organization of this branch was held in Atlantic City on June 5. Dr. W. Benham Snow, editor of *The Journal of Advanced Therapeutics*, was elected president of the American section.

. . . The decision of President Roosevelt, on the recommendation of Secretary Root, to ask congress next winter to reduce the indemnity from China to this country for losses incurred during the Boxer trouble from \$24,440,778 to less than half that sum, will meet with the hearty approval of all good citizens. The amount demanded has been found to be out of all reason, and hence this proposal to clear our national skirts of the stain of open plunder. The retiring Chinese minister, Sir Chen Tung Liang, says: "This action is another monument to America's high sense of justice." Yes, that is true. But we wish our high sense of justice might go a little higher still in our dealings with China.

Some Hints as to the Future Work of the Hague Conference.

Address of Hon. Andrew D. White, LL.D., former Ambassador to Germany and to Russia, and Member of the first Hague Conference, at the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, Wednesday evening, May 23.

The more I reflect upon that which was accomplished at the Hague Conference of 1899, the more am I persuaded that it was good, and that in it lie the germs of

various growths which will be better. As the main result of that first session, there exists an International Tribunal. The judges constituting this Tribunal have been appointed. They have been given full diplomatic inviolability, immunities and privileges as regards their persons, families and belongings. A permanent administrative committee, composed of the representatives of the various nations at The Hague, presided over by the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs, is always ready, at a moment's notice, to attend to every sort of preliminary detail, including formal invitations to any powers in difficulty with each other to submit their differences for adjudication; and it may be added that an international palace of justice, with an international law library, has been provided by an honored American citizen, and will soon be an outward and visible sign to the whole world that this great international court exists.

In addition to all this, there were provided by the Hague Conference of 1899 means for delaying, hindering and even preventing war; and among these, first, a more practical system of tendering "good offices;" secondly, a system of seconding powers, under which each one of two nations, when drifting into war, is encouraged to call in the service of some other nation, there being thus imposed upon both the nations thus called upon the duty of studying and submitting some means for establishing peace; and, in case they are unsuccessful, the duty of declaring any war which may ensue virtually ended so soon as either of the belligerent powers directly concerned shall be placed in a condition of absolute inferiority to the other; thirdly, provision was made for "International Commissions of Inquiry," the duty of which should be to make research into the real causes and nature of any difficulties arising between the two nations especially concerned, and to state them, with any means available for settling them, thus avoiding the present system of leaving serious questions arising between two nations to the inflammatory influences of the more or less yellow presses of the nations concerned, and, indeed, of other nations. Other things for diminishing the horrors and miseries of war were accomplished which are likely to be fruitful in good, the whole work constituting a very great and distinct gain to the world.

Taking them up in the order above given, I would say a few words, first, regarding the plan for arbitration. Remembering, as I do, vividly, the debates upon it in all its phases, I doubt whether some of the efforts which have been recently made, in large public meetings and elsewhere, are likely to accomplish any very permanent results. Speeches made in immense halls, in the presence of crowded galleries, applauding any plea for peace as wildly as under other circumstances they would applaud any utterance for war, mark a very different sort of meeting from that which made the arrangements for arbitration as we now have them, or that which will shortly be assembled in order to develop the work of the first Conference still further. For in that meeting in the spring of 1899, as will doubtless be the case in the approaching meeting during this spring of 1907, there were no galleries, no visitors, no spectators, no reporters; there were no appeals to passion, and very rarely was there anything like applause. Indeed, there was a general feeling that anything save earnest, close, careful discussion of the questions involved was utterly out of place. Not a harsh